



## SAC announces their final schedule for Carnival 2006

Tecla Kelly, the President of SAC, (Stichting Aruubaanse Carnival) the organizing and regulating body of Aruba's annual carnival called a press conference on Thursday afternoon to publicly issue the final regulations and venues in regards to the dozens of events that will lead up to the Grand Carnival Parade on February 26. This is the 52<sup>nd</sup> year of this annual tradition of celebration before the Lenten period, and starting this Saturday night with the Fakkaloptoch or Torch Parade, it will be in full swing, with one exciting competition after another. When ten groups, with some of them numbering over 300 participants make their way through the streets of Oranjestad beginning at 8 pm, all of Aruba acknowledges that Carnival season 52 has begun.

One of the reasons that the Thursday meeting was called was to also remind the participating public that some of the venues for competitions are changed, and that they check with the SAC office in regards to rules and regulations for the various contests. Tecla Kelly also took the opportunity to introduce SAC's new Public Relations Manager, and director for all the Queen competitions, Zizianne Flemming, the Carnival queen of the Golden Jubilee celebration.

SAC has issued regulations new for the Prins and Panchos, plus the Carnival Queens for 2006, and it is suggested that all interested in participating in these elections come by the SAC office in Dakota for information and applications.

Tecla Kelly stated that the media will be kept informed of all the schedules and possible changes and that the public is encouraged to tune to their radios for the latest information or contact Rene Ridderstaat, General Coordinator of Events at 936-3397. To make certain that all materials for presentations are set up and available at the various venues contact the Stage Coordinator Donald Croes at 592-0554. Tecla expressed that she felt this would be a very interesting Carnival, as there are new groups with fresh ideas, and there is a great deal of enthusiasm for this year's carnival.

This Sunday, January 8 is the sign-up for the Youth and Children's Road March and Calypso Contests at the Centro di Bario Brazil. The Prins and Pancho elections will be on Saturday and Sunday the 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> at Club Caiquetio, so SAC management reminded all that wish to compete to make sure they have their applications in as soon as possible and are acquainted with all the new regulations.

This Saturday night the excitement and spirit of Carnaval 52 will come to life on the streets of Oranjestad, as the Torch Parade makes its way through town, an event not to be missed! No observer will doubt that the party of the year has begun! Viva Carnival 52!!